

TABLE 1

Engine	Thrust SLTO (lbf)	Turbine section volume from the Inlet	Thrust/turbine section volume (lbf/in ³)
1	17,000	3,859	4.40
2	23,300	5,330	4.37
3	29,500	6,745	4.37
4	33,000	6,745	4.84
5	96,500	31,086	3.10
6	96,500	62,172	1.55
7	96,500	46,629	2.07
8	37,098	6,745	5.50

[0080] Thus, in example embodiments, the power density would be greater than or equal to about 1.5 lbf/in³. More narrowly, the power density would be greater than or equal to about 2.0 lbf/in³. Even more narrowly, the power density would be greater than or equal to about 3.0 lbf/in³. More narrowly, the power density is greater than or equal to about 4.0 lbf/in³. Also, in embodiments, the power density is less than or equal to about 5.5 lbf/in³.

[0081] Engines made with the disclosed architecture, and including turbine sections as set forth in this application, and with modifications within the scope of this disclosure, thus provide very high efficient operation, and increased fuel efficiency and lightweight relative to their thrust capability.

[0082] An exit area **112** is defined at the exit location for the high pressure turbine **54** and an exit area **110** is defined at the outlet **106** of the low pressure turbine **46**. The gear reduction **48** (shown in FIG. 1) provides for a range of different rotational speeds of the fan drive turbine, which in this example embodiment is the low pressure turbine **46**, and the fan **42** (FIG. 1). Accordingly, the low pressure turbine **46**, and thereby the low spool **30** including the low pressure compressor **44** may rotate at a very high speed. Low pressure turbine **46** and high pressure turbine **54** operation may be evaluated looking at a performance quantity which is the exit area for the respective turbine section multiplied by its respective speed squared. This performance quantity ("PQ") is defined as:

$$PQ_{lp} = (A_{lp} \times V_{lp}^2) \quad \text{Equation 1:}$$

$$PQ_{hpt} = (A_{hpt} \times V_{hpt}^2) \quad \text{Equation 2:}$$

[0083] where A_{lp} is the area **110** of the low pressure turbine **46** at the exit **106**, V_{lp} is the speed of the low pressure turbine section; A_{hpt} is the area of the high pressure turbine **54** at the exit **114**, and where V_{hpt} is the speed of the high pressure turbine **54**.

[0084] Thus, a ratio of the performance quantity for the low pressure turbine **46** compared to the performance quantify for the high pressure turbine **54** is:

$$(A_{lp} \times V_{lp}^2) / (A_{hpt} \times V_{hpt}^2) = PQ_{lp} / PQ_{hpt} \quad \text{Equation 3:}$$

[0085] In one turbine embodiment made according to the above design, the areas of the low and high pressure turbines **46**, **54** are 557.9 in² and 90.67 in², respectively. Further, the speeds of the low and high pressure turbine **46**, **54** are 10179 rpm and 24346 rpm, respectively. Thus, using Equations 1 and 2 above, the performance quantities for the example low and high pressure turbines **46**, **54** are:

$$PQ_{lp} = (A_{lp} \times V_{lp}^2) = (557.9 \text{ in}^2)(10179 \text{ rpm})^2 = 57805157673.9 \text{ in}^2 \text{ rpm}^2 \quad \text{Equation 1:}$$

$$PQ_{hpt} = (A_{hpt} \times V_{hpt}^2) = (90.67 \text{ in}^2)(24346 \text{ rpm})^2 = 53742622009.72 \text{ in}^2 \text{ rpm}^2 \quad \text{Equation 2:}$$

[0086] and using Equation 3 above, the ratio for the low pressure turbine section to the high pressure turbine section is:

$$\text{Ratio} = PQ_{lp} / PQ_{hpt} = 57805157673.9 \text{ in}^2 \text{ rpm}^2 / 53742622009.72 \text{ in}^2 \text{ rpm}^2 = 1.075$$

[0087] In another embodiment, the ratio is greater than about 0.5 and in another embodiment the ratio is greater than about 0.8. With PQ_{lp} / PQ_{hpt} ratios in the 0.5 to 1.5 range, a very efficient overall gas turbine engine is achieved. More narrowly, PQ_{lp} / PQ_{hpt} ratios of above or equal to about 0.8 provides increased overall gas turbine efficiency. Even more narrowly, PQ_{lp} / PQ_{hpt} ratios above or equal to 1.0 are even more efficient thermodynamically and from an enable a reduction in weight that improves aircraft fuel burn efficiency. As a result of these PQ_{lp} / PQ_{hpt} ratios, in particular, the turbine section **28** can be made much smaller than in the prior art, both in diameter and axial length. In addition, the efficiency of the overall engine is greatly increased.

[0088] Referring to FIG. 11, portions of the low pressure compressor **44** and the low pressure turbine **46** of the low spool **30** are schematically shown and include rotors **116** of the low pressure turbine **46** and rotors **132** of the low pressure compressor **44**. Each of the rotors **116** includes a bore radius **122**, a live disk radius **124** and a bore width **126** in a direction parallel to the axis A. The rotor **116** supports turbine blades **118** that rotate relative to the turbine vanes **120**. The low pressure compressor **44** includes rotors **132** including a bore radius **134**, a live disk radius **136** and a bore width **138**. The rotor **132** supports compressor blades **128** that rotate relative to vanes **130**.

[0089] The bore radius **122** is that radius between an inner most surface of the bore and the axis. The live disk radius **124** is the radial distance from the axis of rotation A and a portion of the rotor supporting airfoil blades. The bore width **126** of the rotor in this example is the greatest width of the rotor and is disposed at a radial distance spaced apart from the axis A determined to provide desired physical performance properties.

[0090] The rotors for each of the low compressor **44** and the low pressure turbine **46** rotate at an increased speed compared to prior art low spool configurations. The geometric shape including the bore radius, live disk radius and the bore width are determined to provide the desired rotor performance in view of the mechanical and thermal stresses selected to be imposed during operation. Referring to FIG. 12, with continued reference to FIG. 11, a turbine rotor **116** is shown to further illustrate the relationship between the bore radius **126** and the live disk radius **124**. Moreover, the relationships disclosed are provided within a known range of materials commonly utilized for construction of each of the rotors.

[0091] Accordingly, the increased performance attributes and performance are provided by desirable combinations of the disclosed features of the various components of the described and disclosed gas turbine engine embodiments.

[0092] Although an example embodiment has been disclosed, a worker of ordinary skill in this art would recognize that certain modifications would come within the scope of this disclosure. For that reason, the following claims should be studied to determine the scope and content of this disclosure.

1. A gas turbine engine comprising:

a compressor section;

a combustor in fluid communication with the compressor section;